

GRADES 6-8

LANGUAGE ARTS ESSENTIALS

The concepts of English Language Arts develop over a student's K-12 academic career. While the standards offer grade level specific skills, there are fundamental concepts of literacy that are foundational to development. When teachers promote opportunities for collaboration, communication, and authentic learning experiences, students are engaged in deeper learning and critical thinking.

Students need opportunities to read daily, read texts of their choice, read extended pieces of text and grade level material, and to read fiction and nonfiction texts. When students are making connections between reading, writing, and communicating, they are engaging in deeper learning and critical thinking.

The supports provided on the following pages are to be used for planning purposes as educators explore how best to identify key concepts and make decisions for instruction, remediation, and intervention. These grade level band foundational building blocks and "tires" are visual representations that demonstrate a possible approach to the integration of key concepts, alignment to essential skills, and provide a comprehensive overview of instruction that is necessary to maximize student learning.



COMMUNICATION & MULTIMODAL LITERACIES

- Work collaboratively as both a facilitator and a contributor.
- Create multimodal presentations individually and in collaborative groups.
- Interpret, evaluate, analyze, develop, and produce media messages.
- Build and reflect on interpersonal communication skills.

Analyze figurative language and literary elements.

Find, evaluate, and select appropriate resources for a multimodal research project.

Plan, draft, revise, and edit in a variety of forms.

Continue to develop reading and writing.

READING

- Read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts.
- Continue to expand vocabulary and begin the study of word origins.
- Continue to compare fiction and nonfiction texts.
- Analyze figurative language and literary elements.
- Analyze elements of texts that are critical to technical reading and writing.

Build and reflect on interpersonal communication skills.

Evaluate the validity and authenticity of multiple sources.

WRITING & RESEARCH
NEXT PAGE



Don't forget your EdEquityVA Equity Compass!

Equity Considerations should
always guide our work!



Continue
to expand
vocabulary and
begin the study of word
origins.

Create
multimodal
presentations
individually and
in collaborative
groups.

WRITING

- Plan, draft, revise, edit in a variety forms.
- Write multiparagraph compositions with an emphasis on organization and unity.
- Begin to develop thesis statement that states a position.
- Develop control over the conventions of writing.
- Write about what is read.
- Continue to develop reading and writing together.

Apply
research
techniques
to quote,
summarize, and
paraphrase.

RESEARCH

Begin to
develop thesis
statement that
states a
position.

- Find, evaluate, and select appropriate resources for a multimodal research project.
- Evaluate the validity and authenticity of multiple sources.
- Apply research techniques to quote, summarize, and paraphrase findings.
- Cite primary and secondary sources and follow ethical guidelines for using information.

Analyze
elements of
text that are
critical to
technical reading
and writing.

Interpret,
evaluate, analyze,
develop, and
produce media.

